

REMARKS

Without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejections in the Office Action dated March 17, 2008, claims 1, 6, 12 and 14 have been amended and claim 4 has been canceled. Entry of these amendments, reconsideration of the present patent application and allowance for all claims pending herein are respectfully requested in view of the remarks below. Claims 1-3 and 5-16 are now pending.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the conditional allowance of claims 4-6, 8-12 and 14-16 upon them being rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 12 and 14 have been amended per this conditional allowance and thus are believed to be allowable.

§102 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 7 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Haug (U.S. Patent No. 3,940, 100). More particularly, the Office Action alleges Haug shows all of the elements of claim 1 except for the formation of an approximately spherical grid structure. Applicant respectfully does not concur with this rejection but has amended the claims as indicated above to incorporate the allowable dependent claims therein. Thus, the amended claims are believed to be allowable, along with the dependent claims which are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as the base independent claims and for their own additional features.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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